

DEC 30 2020

OFFICE OF THE CLERK SUPREME COURT COURT OF APPEALS

Joseph H. Loper, Jr. **CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE**

COUNTIES ATTALA - CARROLL - CHOCTAW GRENADA - MONTGOMERY WEBSTER - WINSTON

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December 23, 2020

Mr. Jeremy Whitmire Mississippi Supreme Court Clerk Post Office Box 249 Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Re: Petition Concerning Rule 17.5 of the MS Rules of Criminal Procedure

Dear Mr. Whitmire:

On behalf of Judge George M. Mitchell, Jr., and myself, I am writing in support of the joint. petition of the Attorney General of the State of Mississippi and the State Public Defender seeking to invoke Rule 17.5 of the MS Rules of Criminal Procedure to allow the medical examiners for the State of Mississippi to testify by deposition. Both of us think that it is an excellent idea and urge the Mississippi Supreme Court to grant the petition.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Loper, Jr.

cc. Honorable George M. Mitchell, Jr.